

18/6. Journal
A T R V E
RELATION
O F T H E

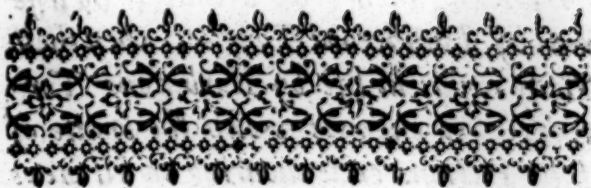
Late Cruell and Barbarous Tortures and
Execution, done vpon the English at
Amboyna in the East Indies, by
the Hollanders there
residing.

*As it hath byn lately deliuered to the Kings
most Excellent Maiesty.*



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THE PVBLISHER HEEROF
TO THE READER.

THIS *Authenticke Relation of the Tragickall Cruelty of Hollanders used upō our English Merchants in Amboyna of the East Indies, comming to my handes; to make the same publicke, I thought my selfe bound by the law of Charity towards both the Dead and Living. The Innocency of the Dead is heere set forth, and proued against many infamous Reports and Libells: for now as-*

ter Death, their good Name is no lesse
rent by slaunderous Tongues, then their
Body was in life by Barbarous Tor-
tures; their enemies with the bruite of
false Fictions endeauouring to fill mens
eares, that the voice of their Innocent
Bloud may not be heard vpon Earth,
which crieth vnto Heauen.

Their Piety was commendable in
forgining their Enemies, and remitting
vnto the the debt of Personall wrongs:
Yet the publicke Iniury done to our whole
Nation, yea to all Mankind, they ney-
ther did, nor could release; which (if o-
ther wayes we may not) yet Reason
requires, that at least, we reuenge by
testimonies of our detestation & horrou-
therof; by laying the publicke note of E-
ternall Infamy vpon the same; and by
all tokens of due condoling the state of
our Innocent Friends.

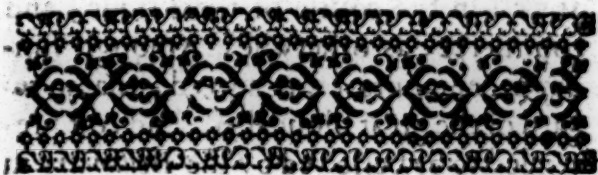
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The Living may heere learne; that
 Couetousnes is the Nurse of Cruelty, and
 that insatiable Thirst of Gold & Silver,
 not finding Mines therof in the Earth,
 will with savage Immanity digge the
 same out of the Bowells, and Keynes of
 their neereft Allyes, and vnto vvhome
 they are infinitely obliged, as Hollanders
 are vnto the English. They vvhoe traf-
 ficke into those partes may heerby be in-
 formed vvhome they may trust, or rather
 vvhome they may not trust; bearing in
 this Relation, not one, but many Poly-
 dorus'es, many of their Countrey-men
 slayne on the shore of Amboyna, to giue
 them in the language of bloud, this pitti-
 full vvarning,

—Heu, fuge crudeles terras, fuge
 littus auarum.

Which barbarous shores to be shunned, are not only those of Amboyna and Hitto; but all, where they beare sway: who by this Fact haue declared, that to get rich Traffiques wholly into theyr owne hands, will regard the bandes, neyther of Religion towards God, nor of Humanity towards Men, nor of Confederacy with their Neighbours, nor of Gratitude with their Friends, by whome they stand, and flourish.

A TRVE



A TRUE RELATION OF THE
*late Cruell and Barbarous Execution & Tor-
tures, done upon the English at Amboyna
in the East Indies, by the Hollanders there. As
it hath byn deliuered to the Kings Maiesty.*

AFTER the fruitles issue of
two seuerall Treaties, the
first Anno 1613. in London,
and the other Anno 1615.
at the Hage in Holland, tou-
ching the difference betweene the English
and Dutch in the East Indies, at last by a
third Treaty Anno 1619. in London, there
was a full and solemne Composition made
of all the sayd differences, & a sayre Order
set, for the future proceeding of the sup-
ports of both Companies in the Indies,

as well in the course of their trade, and
 commerce, as otherwise. Amongst in-
 dry other points it was agreed, that in re-
 gard of the great bloodshed, and cost pre-
 tended to be bestowed by the *Hollanders* in
 winning of the Trade of the *Ilands* of the
Moluccas, *Banda*, and *Amboyna* from the *Por-
 tugalls*, and in building of Fortes for the
 continuall securing of the same, the sayd
Hollanders therefore should enjoy the two
 third parts of that Trade, and the En-
 glish the other third: and the charge of
 the Forts to be mayntayned by the Taxes
 and Impositions to be leuied vpon the
 marchandize. Wherefore in consequence
 of this agreemēt, the English of the *East-
 India-Company* planted certaine Factories
 for their share of this Trade, some in the
Moluccas, some at *Banda*, and some at *Am-
 boyna*. Of the two former of these, there
 will be at the present small occasion to
 speake further, but the last will proue the
 Scene of a sad Tragedie.

This

This *Amboyna*, is an Iland lying neere *Seran*, of the circuite of 40. leagues, and giueth name also to some small Ilands adjacent. It beareth Cloues, for gathering & buying in whereof, the English Company for their part, had planted fise seuerall Factories; the Head and Rende-uous of all, at the towne of *Amboyna*; and therein first M. George Muschamp, and afterward M. Gabriel Towerson their Agents, with directions ouer the smaller Factories at *Hutto*, and *Larika*, vpon the same Ilands; and at *Lobo*, and *Cambello* vpon a pointe of the neighbouring Iland of *Seran*.

Vpon this Iland of *Amboyna*, and the pointe of *Seran*, the *Hollanders* haue foure Forts. The chiefe of all, is at the towne of *Amboyna*, and is very stronge, hauing foure Points, or Bulwarkes, with their Curtaines; and vpon ech of these points, six great peeces of Ordinance mounted, most of them brasse. The one side of this Castle is washed by the sea, and the other is deu-

ded from the land with a ditch of foure or
 five fadome broad, very deepe, and euer
 filled with the Sea. The garrison of this
 Castle, consisteth of about 200. Dutch
 souldiers, and a company of free Burgers:
 besides these there is alwayes a matter of
 three or foure hundred *Mardekens* (for so
 they vsually call the free Natives) in the
 towne ready to serue the Castle, at an
 houres warning. There lye also in the
 roade for the most part diuers good ships
 of the Hollanders, aswell for the guard of
 that place by sea, as for the occasions of
 trafique, this being the chiefe Rendeuous,
 as well for the Hands of *Banda*, as for the
 rest of *Amboyna*. Heere the English liued,
 not in the Castle, but vnder Protection
 thereof, in a House of their owne, in the
 Towne, holding themselves safe, as well
 in respect of the ancient bands of amity
 betwene both Nations, as of the firme cō-
 iunction, made by the last Treaty before
 mentioned.

They

They continued heere some two yeares, conuersing and trading together with the *Hollanders*, by vertue of the sayd Treaty, in which tyme there fell out sundry differences and debats betweene them; the *English* complayning, that the *Hollanders* did not onely lauish away much money in building and vnnecessary expenses vpon the Fortes, and otherwise, and bring large and vnreasonable reckonings thereof to the common account: But also, did for their part pay the Garrisons with victuals and cloath of *Coramandel*, which they put off to the soldiers at three or foure tymes the Valew it cost them, yet would not allow of the English Companies part of the same charge, but only in ready mony, thereby drawing from the English, which ought to pay but one third part, more then two thirds of the whole true charge.

Herevpon, and vpon the like occasions grew some discontents and disputes. And complaints were sent to *Iaccatray* in

the Iland of *Iava Major*, to the Councell
 of Defence of both Nations there residing,
 who also not agreeing vpon the points in
 difference, sent the same ouer hither into
Europe, to be decided by both Companies
 heere, or in default of their agreement, by
 the Kings Maiesty, and the Lords States
 Generall, according to an article of the
 Treatie in the yeare 1619. vpon this be-
 halfe. In the meane tyme the discontent
 betweene the English and the Dutch, a-
 bout these and other differences, conti-
 nued, and daily increased, vntill at last,
 there was a sword found, at once to cut in
 sunder that knot, which the tedious dis-
 putes of *Amboyna*, and *Iaccatray* could not
 vntye. And this was vsed in this manner
 as followeth.

About the eleuenth of February 1622.
Stylo vet a *Iaponesse*, souldier of the Dutch
 in their Castle of *Amboyna*, walking in the
 night vpon the walles, came to the Cen-
 tinell, being a *Hollander*, & there amongst
 other

other talke asked him some questions, touching the strength of the Castle, and the people that were therein.

It is to be noted, that the *Iaponeses*, of whome there were not thirty in all the Iland, did for the most part, serue the Dutch as souldiers; yet were not of theyr trusty Band alwayes lodged in the Castle, but vpon occasion called out of the towne, to assist in the Watch. This *Iaponese* afore-sayd, was for his sayd conference with the Centinell, apprehended vpon suspition of Treason, and put to the torture, and thereby (as some of the Dutch affirmed) forced to confesse himselfe, and sundry others of his Country-men there, to haue contriued the taking of the Castle. Hereupon other *Iaponeses* were examined and tortured, as also a *Portugese*, Guardian of the Slaues, vnder the Dutch. During this examination, which continued three or foure dayes, some of the Englishmen went to & from the Castle vpon theyr businesse, saw

the Prisoners, heard of theyr Tortures, and of the crime laid to their charge; but all this while suspected not that this matter did any way concerne themselves, hauing neuer had any Conuersation with the *Iaponeses*, nor with the *Portugese* aforesayd.

At the same tyme, there was one *Abel Price*, Surgeon of the English, Prisoner in the Castle, for offering in his drunkenes to set a Dutch-mans house on fier. This fellow the Dutch tooke, & shewed him some of the *Iaponeses*, whome they had first most grieuously tortured, and told him, that they had confessed the English to haue been of theyr confederacy for the taking of the Castle: And that if he would not cōfesse the same, they would vse him euen as they had done those *Iaponeses*, and worse also. Hauing giuen him the torture, they soone made him confesse what euer they asked him. This was the 15. of February 1622. *Stylo Veteri*. Forthwith about nine
of

of the clocke the same morning, they sent for *Captayne Towerfon*, and the rest of the English, that were in towne, to come to speake with the Gouvernour in the Castle. They all went, saue one that was lefte to keepe the house. Being come to the Gouvernour, he tould *Captaine Towerfon*, that himselfe and others of his nation were accused of a conspiracie to surprise the Castle, and therefore vntill further tryall, they were all to remaine Prisoners. Instantly they also attached him that was left at home in the house, tooke the marchandize of the English Company there, into their owne custody by Inuentory, and seized all the chests, boxes, bookes, writings and other things in the English House. *Captaine Towerfon* was committed to his chamber, with a guard of Dutch souldiers, *Emmanuel Tompson* was kept prisoner in the Castle; the rest sent aboard the Holland ships then riding in the Harbor, some to one ship, and some to another, and all made

made fast in Irons.

The same day also the Gouvernour sent to the two other Factories in the same Hand, to apprehend the rest of the English there: So that *Samuel Colson*, *John Clarke*, and *George Sherrock* that were found in the Factory at *Hitto*, and *VVilliam Greys*, and *John Sadler* at *Larika*, were all brought prisoners to *Amboyna* the 16. of February: vpon which day also *John Poole*, *John VVetherell*, & *Thomas Ladbrooke* were apprehended at *Cabello* and *Lobo*, and brought in Irons to *Amboyna*, the 20. day of the same moneth.

In the meane tyme the Gouvernour & and Fiscall went to worke with the prisoners, that were already there. And first they sent for *John Beamont*, and *Timothy Johnson* from aboard the *Vnicorne*; who being come into the Castle, *Beamont* was left with a guard in the Hall, and *Johnson* was taken in, into an other roome, where by and by *Beamont* heard him cry out very pittifully, then to be quiet a little while,

while, & then aloud againe. After this tast of the torture, *Abel Price* the Surgeon that was first examined & tortured, as is aboue remembred, was brought in, to confront and accuse him: but *Johnson* not yet confessing any thing, *Price* was quickly carried out, and *Johnson* brought againe to the torture, where *Beamont* heard him sometyme cry aloud, then quiet againe, then to roare afresh. At last, after he had bene about an houre in this second examination, he was brought forth wayling and lamenting, all wet, and cruelly burnt in diuers partes of his Body, and so layd aside in a by-place of the Hall, with a souldier to watch him that he should speake with no body.

Then was *Enmanuel Tompson* brought to examination, not in the roome where *Johnson* had bene, but in another something further from the Hall; yet *Beamont* being in the Hall heard him roare most lamentably many tymes. At last, after an houre and a halfe spent in tormenting him, he

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was

was carried away into another roome another way, so that he came not by *Beamont* through the Hall. Next was *Beamont* called in, and being demanded many things, which he denied all with deep oathes and protestations, was made fast to be tortured, a cloath tyed about his necke, and two men ready with their buckets of water to be powred on his head; but yet for this tyme the Gouvernour bad loose him, saying he would spare him a day or two, because he was an old man. This was all Saturdaies worke, the 15. of February aforesaid.

Vpon Sunday the 16. of February, *William VVebber*, *Edward Collins*, *Ephrem Ramsay*, and *Robert Browne* were fetcht frō aboard the *Rotterdam*, to be examined; & at the same tyme came *Samuel Colson*, *William Greys*, *Iohn Clarke*, *George Sherrocke* and *Iohn Sadler* from *Hitto*, & *Larika*, & were immediatly vpon their arriual brought into the Castle Hall.

Robert Browne the Taylor was first called
in,

in, who being tormented with water, confessed all in order as the Fiscall asked him. Then was *Edward Collins* called in, & tould that those that were formerly examined, had confessed him as accessary to the plot of taking the Castle; which whē he denied, with great oathes and protestations, they made his hands & feet fast to the racke, bound a cloath about his throate ready to be put to the torture of water. Thus prepared, he desired to haue a little respyte, & he would confesse all. Being then let downe, he againe vowed and protested his Innocency, yet sayd, that because he knew they would by torture make him cōfesse any thing neuer so false, they should doe him a great fauour to tell him, what they would haue him say, and he would speake it, to auoyd the torture. The Fiscall thereupon sayd: What doe you mocke vs, and bad vp with him againe: and so gaue him the torment of water, which he not able long to endure, prayed to be let downe.

agayne to his confession. Then he deuised a little with himselfe, and tould them, that about two monthes and a halfe before, Himselfe, *Tompson*, *Iohnson*, *Browne* & *Fardel*, had plotted, with the helpe of the *Iaponeses*, to surprise the Castle. There he was interrupted by the Fiscall, and asked whether *Captaine Tower* were not of that conspiracie? He answered no. You lye said the Fiscall; did not he call you all to him, and tell you, that those daily abuses of the Dutch had caused him to thinke of a plot, and that he wanted nothing but your consents & secrecie? Then sayd a Dutch Merchant, one *Iohn Iooft*, that stood by: Did not you all swear vpon a Bible to be secret to him? *Collins* answered with great oathes, that he knew nothing of any such matter. Then they bad make him fast againe to the racke: wherupon he then said all was true that they had spoken. Then the Fiscall asked him, whether the English in the rest of the Factories were not consenting

senting to this plot? He answered no. The Fiscall then asked him, whether the president for the English at Iaccatray, or M. Welden Agent in Banda, were not plotters, or priuy to this businesse? Againe he answered no. Thē the Fiscall asked him, by what meanes the *Iaponeses* should haue executed their purpose? Whereat when Collins stood staggering, & deuising of some probable Fiction, the Fiscall helped him, and said: Should not two *Iaponeses* haue gone to each point of the Castle, and two to the Gouernours Chamber dore, & when the hurly-burly had byn without, & the Gouernour comming to see what was the matter, then the *Iaponeses* to haue killed him? Heere one that stood by, sayd to the Fiscall: Doe not tell him what he should say, but let him speake of himselfe. Wherupon the Fiscall, without attending the answer to his former question, asked what the *Iaponeses* should haue had for their reward? Collins answered; A thousand Ryalls apeece. Last-

ly he asked him when this plot should haue bene executed? Whereunto although he answered him nothing, not knowing what to deuise vpon a suddaine; yet he was dismissed, & was very glad to come cleere of the torture, though with certaine beliefe, that he should dye for this his confession.

Next was *Samuel Colson* brought in, being newly arriued from *Hitto*, as is before touched, and was the same day brought to the Torture, who for feare of the payne wherwith he saw *Collins* come out in such a case, that his eyes were almost blowne out of his head, with the torment of water, chose rather to cōfesse all they asked him, and so was quickly dismissed, cōming out weeping, and lamenting, and protesting his Innocency.

Then was *John Clarke* that came with *Colson* from *Hitto*, fetched in, and a little after was heard by the rest that were without in the Hall, to cry out amayne. They
tor-

tortured him with water, and with fier for the space of two houres. The manner of his torture (as also of *Johnsons & Tompsons*) was as followeth. First they hoysed him vp by the hands with a cord, vpon a large dore, where they made him fast vpon two staples of Iron, fastened on both sides on the top of the dore posts, haling his hāds one from the other as wide as they could stretch. Being thus made fast, his feete hunge some two foote from the ground, which also they stretched asunder as far as they could reach, & so made them fast beneath to the dore posts on ech side. The they bound a cloath about his necke and face, so close, that little or no water could goe by: that done they powred it softly vpon his head, vntill the cloath was full vp to his mouth & nostrils, & somewhat higher, so that he could not draw breath, but he must withall sucke in the water.

When he had drunke his body full, then began his payne; for then the water
being

being still continued to be powred softly, forced his excrements to come out at his nose & eyes, and often, as it were stifling & choaking him, at length tooke away his breath, & brought him to a sound or fainting: Then they tooke him quickly downe & made him vomit vp the water: & being a little recovered they trussed him vp againe, and powred in water as before, oft-soons taking him downe when he seemed to be stifled.

In this manner they handled him three or foure tymes with water, till his body was swollen twise or thrise as big as before, his cheeks like great bladders, & his eyes staring, and strutting out beyond his forehead: yet all this he bare without complaining any thing. In so much, as the Fil-call and Tormentors reuiled him, saying that he was a Deuill and no Man, or surely he was a Witch, at least had some Charme about him, or was enchanted, that he could beare so much. Wherefore they cut of his
haire

haire very short, as supposing he had some witchcraft hiddé therein . Afterward they hoysed him vp againe as before , and then burned him with littell candels, in the bottome of his fecte , vntill the fat dropt out the candels ; yet then applyed they fresh lights vnto him : they burnt him also vnder his elbows , and in the palmes of his háds ; likewise vnder his arme-pits, vntill his entralls might be euidently scene.

At last when they saw he could of himselfe make no handsome Confession , then they led him a long with questions & particular circumstances , by themselues framed Being thus wearied and ouercome by the torment, he answered yea to whatsoever they asked , whereby they drew frō him a body of confession, to this effect, to wit: That *Captayne Tower*son had vpō New-yeares day last before , sworne all the English at *Amboyna* to be secret, & assistant to a plot that he had projected with the help of the *Iaponeses*, to surprise the Castle , & to

D

put

put the Gouvernour & the rest of the Dutch to death.

Having thus martyred this poore man, they sent him forth with foure fellowes; who carried him between them to a dungeon, where he lay five or six dayes without any Surgeon or other to dresse him, vntill his flesh being putrified, great maggots dropt, & crept frō him in a most loathsome & noysome manner. Thus they finished their Sabbath dayes worke: And it growing now darke, they sent the rest of the English that came that day from *Hitto*, & had till then attended in the Hall, first to the Smiths Forge, where they were laden with Irons, & then to the same loathsome dungeon where *Clarke* and the rest were, accompanied with the poore *Iaponeses*, lying in the putrification of their tortures.

The next morning being monday the 17. of February *Stylo vet.* *William Grege* & *Iohn Fardo*, with certaine *Iaponeses* were brought into the place of examination.

The

The Iaponeses were first most cruelly tortured to accuse *Gregs*, which at last they did, & *Gregs* to auoyd the like torture confessed all that the Fiscall demanded. By & by, the like also was done by *John Fardo*, & the other *Iaponeses*; but *Fardo* himselfe endured the torture of water, and at last confessed whatsoeuer the Fiscall asked him, & so was sent backe to prison.

The same day also *John Beamont* was brought the second tyme to the Fiscalls Chamber, where one *Captayne Newport*, a Dutchmans sonne borne in England, was vsed as an Interpreter. *VVilliam Gregs* was also brought in to accuse him, who sayd, That when the consultation for taking of the Castle was held, then he, the sayd *Beamont*, was present. *Beamont* denied it with great, earnest, and deepe oathes: at last being trussed vp, and drenched with water til his Bowells were ready to breake, he answered affirmatiuely to all the Fiscalls Interrogatories: yet as soone as he was let

downe, he cleerely demonstrated to *Captayne Newport*, & one *Iohnson* a Dutch merchant then also present, that these things could not be so, neuerthelesse he was inforced to put his hand to his Confession, or else he must to the Torture againe; which to auoyde he subscribed, and so had a great iron bolt, and two shackels riuetted to his legs, and then was carried back to prison.

After this, *George Sherrocke* an assistant at *Hitto*, was called to the question, who seeing how grieuously others were martyred, made his earnest prayer to God, (as since vpon his oath he hath acknowledged) that he would suffer him to make some such probable lyes against himself, as the Dutch might belieue, and therby escape the torment. Being brought to the Racke, the water prouided, & the Candles lighted, he was by the *Gouernour* and *Fiscall* examined, and charged with the conspiracy. He fell vpon his knees, and protested his Innocency; Then they commanded him to
the

the Rack, and they tould him, vnlesse he would confesse, he should be tormented with fier and water vnto death, and then should be drawne by the heeles to the gallows, and there hanged vp. He still persisting in his Innocēcy, the Fiscall bid him be hoysed vp; thē he craued respite a while and tould them, that he was at *Hitto*, and not at *Amboyna* vpon New-yeares day whē the consultation was pretended, neyther had he bene there since Nouember before, as was well knowne to sundry of the *Hollanders* themselues, that resided there also with him.

Hereupon they commanded him againe to the Racke, but he crauing respite as before, now tould them that he had many tymes heard *Iohn Clarke* (that was with him at *Hitto*) say, that the Dutch had done them many vn sufferable wrongs, and that he would be reuenged of them: To which end he had once broken with *Captayne Towerson*, of a braue plot. At which wordes

the Fiscall and the rest were very attentie,
encouraging him to proceed. So he went
on, saying, *Iohn Clarke* had intreated *Captayne Tower-
son*, that he might go to *Macas-
sar*, there to consult and aduise vwith the
Spaniards, to come vwith Gallies, and rob
the small Factories of *Amboyna* and *Seran*,
vwhen no ships vv ere there. Heere they
asked him, what *Captayne Tower-son* sayd to
this? He answered, that *Captaine Tower-son*
was very much offeended with *Clarke* for the
motion, and from thenceforth could ne-
uer abide him.

Hereupon the Fiscal called him Rogue,
and sayd he prated quite from the matter,
and should goe to the torture. He craued
fauour againe, and began another tale, to
wit: That vpon Twelf-day then last past,
Iohn Clarke tould him at *Hitto*, that there
was a practise to take the castle of *Amboyna*,
and asked him whether he would consent
thereunto? Whereupon he demanded of
Clarke, whether *Captayne Tower-son* knew of
any

any such matter, which *Clarke* affirming, then he (the sayd *Sherrock*) sayd , that he would doe as the rest did . Then the Fiscall asked him , what tyme the Consultation was held ? He answered in Nouember last . The Fiscall sayd , that could not be, for the consultation was vpon New-yeares day . The prisoner sayd as before, that he had not bene in *Amboyna* from the first of *December*, till now, that he was brought thither . Why the, quoth the Fiscall, haue you belied your selfe ? Whereto the Prisoner resolutely answered, That all he had spoken touching any treason, was false & feygned onely to auoyd torment.

Then went the Fiscall out into another roome vnto the Gouvernour, & anone returned , & sent *Sherrock* backe to prison . The next day he was called againe , and a writing presented him, wherein was framed a formall Confession of his last Cōference with *Clarke* at *Hitto* , touching the plot to take the Castle of *Amboyna* ; which being read

read ouer to him; the Fiscall asked him whether it were true or no? He answered no. Why then sayd the Fiscall did you confesse it? He answered, for feare of torment, The Fiscall, and the rest in a great rage tould him he lyed, his mouth had spoken it, and it was true, and therefore he should subscribe it, Which he yet refusing to do, they layd hands on him, to bring him to the torture; so then he subscribed it: which as soone as he had done, he fell presently into a great passion, charging them bitterly to be guilty of the Innocent bloud of himselfe, and the rest, which they should looke to answer for, at the day of Iudgement; withall he graped with the Fiscall, and would haue stopped him from carrying in the Confession to the Gouvernour, with whome he also craued to speake; but he was instantly layd hould on, and carried away to prison.

William Webber being next examined, was tould by the Fiscall, that *John Clarke* had

had confessed him to haue bene at *Amboyna* on New-yeares day, and sworne to *Captaine Towersons* plot &c. All which he denied, alleging that he was that day at *Larika*; yet being brought to the torture, he then confessed he had bene at the consultation at *Amboyna* vpon New-yeares day, with all the rest of the circumstances, as he was asked in order; who also further tould them, he had receaued a letter from *Iohn Clarke* after, which was a postscript, excusing his brieife wryting at that tyme, for that there was great businesse then in hād: but one *Reymere* a Dutch merchant then standing by, tould the Gouvernour, that vpon New-yeares day, the tyme of this pretended consultation *VVeber* and he were merry togeather at *Larika*; so the Gouvernour finding that he had falsly accused himselfe, left him, and went out, but the Fiscall held on, vpon the other point touching the Postscript of *Clarke's* letter, vrging him to shew the same, which when

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he could not doe, though often terrified with the torture, he gaue him respyte, promising to saue his life, if he would produce that letter.

Then *Captayne Tower*son brought was to examination, and shewed what others had confessed of him, he deeply protesting his Innocency. *Samuel Colson* was brought to confront him, who, being tould that vnlesse he would now made good his former Confessiō against *Captaine Tower*son he should to the torture againe, very coldly reaffirmed the same, and so was sent away.

They also brought *William Grege*, & *John Fardo* to iustifie their former Confessions to his face; but *Captaine Tower*son seriously charging them, as they would answer it at the dreadful day of Iudgment, to speake nothing but the truth, both of the instantly fell downe vpon their knees before him, praying him for Gods sake to forgiue them; and saying further openly before them all, that whatsoeuer they had
for-

formerly confessed, was most false, and spoken only to auoyd torment. With that the Fiscall and the rest offered them againe the torture, which they not able to indure, did then affirme their former Confessions to be true.

When *Colson* (who had accused *Captaine Tower*son as before) was required to set his hand to his Confession, he asked the Fiscall, vpon whose head he thought the sin would lye: Whether vpon his who was constrained to confesse what was false, or vpon the Constrayners? The Fiscall, after a little pause vpon this question, went in to the Gouvernour, being then in another roome, but anone returning, told *Colson* he must subscribe, which he did, yet withall made this protestation: Well (quoth he) you make me to accuse my selfe, & others of that which is as false, as God is true; for God is my witnesse, I am as innocēt as the child new borne.

Thus hauing examined all that belō-

ged to the English Company of the severall Factories in the Iland of *Amboyna*, the 21. of February they examined *John VVetherall* Factour of *Cambelio* in the Iland of *Seran*: he confessed he was at *Amboyna* vpo New-yeares day, but for the consultation whereof he was demanded, he said he knew of no other, but touching certaine cloath of the English Cōpany, that lay in the Factories rotten, & worm-eaten, which they aduised together, how to put off for the best auaille of theyr employers. The Gouernour sayd, they questioned him not about cloath, but of treason. Whereof when he had protested his Innocency, he was for that tyme dismissed: but the next day he was sent for againe, and *Captaine Towerfon* brought to confront, and accuse him, hauing before (it seemes) confessed somewhat against him. But *M. Towerfon* spake now these words onely: *O M. VVetherall*, *M. VVetherall*, speake the truth, and nothing but the truth, as God shall put into your hart.

hart. So *Captaine Tower*son was put out againe, and *Wetherall* brought to the torture of water, with great threats, that if water would not make him confesse, fier should. He prayed them to tell him what he should say, or to write downe what they would, and he would subscribe it. They sayd, that he needed no Tutor, they would make him confesse of himselfe. But when they had trussed him vp foure severall tymes, and saw that he knew not what to say, then they read him other mens Confessions, and asked him from point to point, as they had done others, and he still answered yea to all.

Next was called in *John Poole*, *Wetheralls* assistant at *Cambello*, but he prouing that he was not at *Amboyna* since Nouember, vntill now when he was brought thither prisoner, & being spokē for by one *John Iooſt*, that had bene long tyme well acquainted with him, was dismissed without torture.

Then was *Thomas Ladbrooke* seruant to

M^r Wetherall, & Poole at Combello, brought to be examined, but prouing that he was at *Combello*, at the tyme of the pretended consultation, and seruing in such quality as that he was neuer acquainted with any of the letters from the Agent of *Amboyna*, was easily and quickly dismissed.

Ephrem Ramsey was also examined vpon the whole pretended conspiracy, and particularly questioned concerning *M. Welden* the English Agēt in *Banda*; but denying al, & prouing he was not at *Amboyna* on New-yeares day, being also spoken for by *Iohn Ioost*, was dismissed, after he had hanged vpon the racke a good while, with his Irons vpon his legs, and the cloth about his necke.

Lastly *Iohn Sadler*, Seruant to *William Gregs* at *Larika*, was examined, but being found to haue bene absent from *Amboyna* at New-yeares tyde, when *Gregs* & others were there, he was dismissed.

Thus haue we heere set downe all theyr

examinations, tortures, & confessions, being the worke of 8. dayes, from the 15. to the 23. of February. After which being two dayes respite before the sentēce, *Iohn Poole* being himselte acquitted, as aforesayd, went to the prison to visit *Iohn Fardo*, one of those that had accused *Captaine Tower*. To him *Fardo* religiously protested his Innocēcy, but especially his sorrow for accusing *Captaine Tower*: For, sayd he, the feare of death doth nothing dismay me, for God I trust will be mercifull to my soule according to the Innocency of my cause; the onely matter that troubleth me is, that throgh feare of tormēt I have accused that honest godly mā *Captaine Tower*, whom I thinke in my conscience, was so vpright and honest towards all men; that he harboured no ill will to any, much lesse would attempt any such businesse as he is accused of. He further sayd, he would before his death receaue the Sacrament in acknowledgment that he had accused *Captaine Tower*.

erson falsely, & wrongfully, only for feare of torment.

The 25. of February *Stylo Ver.* all the prisoners, as well English, as the *Portugese*, and the *Iaponeses*, were brought into the great Hall of the Castle, and were there solemnly cōdemned, except *Iohn Poole*, *Ephrem Ramsey*, *Iohn Sadler*, & *Thomas Ladbrooke* formerly acquitted, as afore sayd.

Captaine Tower son hauing bene (during all his imprisonment) kept a part from the rest, so that none of them could come to speake with him, wrote much in his chamber, as some of the Dutch reported, but all was suppressed, saue only a bill of debt, which one *Teunis Iohnson*, a free Burger got of him by fauour of his Keeper, for acknowledgement that the English Company owed him a certain some of money. In the end of this bill he wrote these words: *Firmed by the firme of me Gabriell Tower* so, now appointed to dye, guiltlesse of any thing that can be iustly layd to my charge: God forgive them their guilte

guilte, and receaue me to his mercy. Amen. This
 Bill being brought to M. VVelden the English Agent at Banda, he payed the money, & receaued in the acknowledgment.

William Gregs (that had before accused Captayne Tower(son) wrote these words following in his Table-booke: We whose names are here specified, Iohn Beamont merchant of Loho, VVilliam Gregs merchant of Larika, Abel Price Surgeon of Amboyna, Robert Browne Taylour, who doe heree lye prisoners in the ship Rotterdam, being apprehended for conspiracy of blowing up the Castle of Amboyna, & being adiudged to death this fifth of March Anno 1622. We through torment were constrained to speake that which we neuer meant, nor once imagined, the which we take vpon our deatnes, & saluation. They tortured vs with that extreme torment of fier & water, that flesh & bloud could not indure. And this we take vpon our deatns, that they haue put vs to death guiltlesse of our accusation. So therefore we desire those, who shall vnderstand these our wrongs, and that your selues

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would

would haue a care to looke to our selues, for their intent was to haue brought you in also: they asked concerning you, which if they had tormented vs, we must haue cōfessed you also, & so far well: written in the darke. This Table-booke was afterwards deliuered to M. Welden, by one that serued the Dutch.

Samuel Colson also, another that accused Captaine Towersō, wrote as followeth in the wast leaues of a booke, wherein were bound together the Common prayers, the Psalmes, and the Catechisme.

In one page thus :

March the 5. Stylo nouo, Being Sunday,
aboard the Rotterdam lying in Irons, vnder-
stand that I Samuel Colson late faētor of Hic-
to, was apprehended for suspicion of Conspiracy,
& for any thing I know I must dye for it. Where-
fore hauing no better meanes to make my Innocē-
cy knowne, haue writtē this in this booke, hoping
some good Englishman will see it. I doe here vpon
my saluation, as I hope by Christ his death & pas-
sion to haue redemption for my sins; that I am
cleere

deere of all such conspiracy : neyther doe I know any Englishman guilty therof, nor other creature in the world. As this is true, God blesse me.

Samuel Colson.

On the other side, vpon the first page of the Catechisme, is thus written:

In another leafe, you shal vnderstād more, which I haue written in the Booke:.....S. Colson.
 being in the beginning of the psalmes.
 And in that leafe so referred vnto, is thus written, vid. The Iapons were taken with some villany, & brought to examinatio, being most tyrāously tortured, were asked, if the English had any hād in their plot, which torture made thē say Tea. Then was M. Tomson, M. Iohnson, M. Collins, Iohn Clarke brought to examination, and were burned vnder the armes, the arme-pits, the hands, and soles of the feete, with another most miserable torment to drinke water: some of them almost tortured to death, were forced to confesse that which they neuer knew, by reason of the torment, which flesh and bloud is not able to enaūre. Then were the rest of the Englishmen cal-

led one by one, amongst which I was one, wished to confesse, or els I must go to tormēt; & withall caused M. Iohnsō who was before tormēted, to witness against me, or els he should be tormēted againe; which rather then he would endure, he sayd, what they would haue, he would speake. Then must I cōfesse that I neuer knew, or else go to tormēt, which rather then I would suffer I did cōfesse that which (as I shall be saued before God Almighty) is not trew, being forced for feare of torment. Then did they mak vs witnesse against Captaine Towerlon, & at last made Capt. Towerlō cōfesse all, for feare of most cruel torment, for which we must all dye. As I meane & hope to haue pardō for my sins, I know no more then the child that is vnborne of this businesse. VVritten with my owne hand the 5. of March. Stylo nouo. Samuel Colson.

Also in another page, were these words:

I was borne in New-Castle vpon Tyne, where I desire this Booke may come, where my friends may know my Innocency. Samuel Colson.

This booke he deliuered to one that serued the Hollanders, who sowed it vp in his

his bed, and afterwards at his opportunity
deliuered it to *M. Velden* before named.
All these sayd wrytings are yet extant vn-
der the hands of the seuerall parties, well
knowne to their friends heere in England.

The 26. of February *Stylo veteri*, the
Prisoners were all brought into the great
Hall of the Castle, except *Captaine Tower-
son*, and *Emmanuel Tompson*, to be prepared
for death by the Ministers. The *Iaponeses*
now all in generall, as some of them had
done before in particuler, cryed out vnto
the English, saying: O yee Englishmen,
where did we euer in our liues eate with
you? talke with you? yea or to our remem-
brance see you? The English answered,
why then haue you accused vs? The poore
men perceauing they were made belieue
ech had accused others, shewed them their
tortured bodies, and sayd; If a stone were
thus tortured and burnt, would it not
change his nature? How much more we
that are flesh & bloud.

Whilest they were all in the Hall, *Captaine Tomerson* was brought vp into the place of examination, and two great pitchets of water carried after him: what he there did, or suffered, was vnknowne vnto the English without, but it seemeth they made him then to subscribe to his former Confession.

After supper, *John Poole*, *Ephrem Ramsey*, *Thomas Ladbroke*, and *John Sadler*, who were found not guilty as aforesayd, were taken from the rest, and put into another roome. By and by also, were *Samuel Colson* and *Edward Collins* brought from the rest into the roome where *Emmanuel Tomson* lay. The Fiscall told them it was the Governors mercy to saue one of them three, and it being indifferent to him which of them should be the man, it was his pleasure they should draw lots for it, which they did: And the free lot fell to *Edward Collins*, who then was carried away to the chamber where *John Poole*, and the rest that were

were quit, were lodged; and *Samuel Colson* brought backe into the Hall. Anon also *John Beamont* was brought out of the Hall into the chamber where *John Poole* and the rest of the acquitted persons were: and was tould, that he was beholding to *Peter Johnson* the Dutch merchant of *Lobo*, and to the Secretary, for they two had begged his life. So then there remayned in the Hall only ten of the English, for *Captaine Tower-son* and *Emmanuel Tomson* as aforesayd, were kept in seuerall roomes apart from the rest.

To these that remained in the Hall, came the Dutch Ministers, who telling the how short a tyme they had to liue, admonished and exhorted them to make theyr true Confessions, for it vvas a dangerous and desperate thing to dissemble at such a tyme. The English still professed theyr Innocency, and prayed the Ministers that they might all receaue the Sacrament, as a seale of the forgiuenes of their sins; and wvithall thereby to confirme their last profession

session of their Innocency. But this would
 by no meanes be granted. Whereupon Sa-
 muel Colson sayd thus vnto the Ministers:
 You manifest vnto vs the danger of dissi-
 mulation in this case; But tell vs, If vve
 suffer guiltlesse, being otherwise also true
 beleeuers in Christ Iesvs, vvhath shall be
 our reuward? The preacher answered, by
 how much the cleerer you are, so much the
 more glorious shalbe your resurrection.
 With that vword Colson started vp, imbra-
 ced the Preacher, and gaue him his purse
 with such money as he had in it, saying;
 Domine, God blesse you: Tell the Gouernour I
 freely forgiue him, & I intreat you to exhort him
 to repent him of this bloudy Tragedy, wrought
 vpon vs poore innocent soules. Heere all the
 rest of the English signified their consent
 to this speech. Then spake Iohn Fardo to
 the rest, in the presence of the Ministers, as
 followeth: My Countrymen and Brethren that
 are heere condemned to dye, I charge you all, as
 you will answer it at Gods iudgement seate, if
 any

any of you be guilty of this matter, whereof we are condemned, discharge your Conscience, and confesse the truth for satisfaction of the world. Hereupon Samuel Colson spake with a loud voyce, saying. According to my innocency in this Treason, so Lord pardon all the rest of my finnes: And if I be guilty thereof more or lesse, let me neuer be partaker of thy heauenly Ioyes. At which words euery one of the rest cryed out, Amen for me, Amen for me, good Lord.

This done, ech of them knowing whom he had accused, went one to another begging forgiuenesse for their false accusation, being wrong from thē by the paynes, or feare of torture. And they all freely forgauē one another, for none had bene so falsely accused, but himselfe had accused another as falsly. In particuler George Sherrock, who suruiued to relate this nights passage, kneeled downe to Iohn Clarke, whom he had accused of the tale at Hitto, aboue mentioned, and craued forgiuenes at his hands. Clarke freely forgauē him, saying;

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how should I looke to be forgiuen of God, if I should not forgiue you, hauing my self so falsly accused *Captaine Tomerison*, and others. After thus they spent the rest of that doleful night in prayer, singing of psalmes, and comforting one another, though the Dutch that guarded them offered them wine, bidding them drinke lustich, and driue away their sorrow, according to the custome of their owne nation in like case, but contrary to the nature of the English.

Vpon the morrow morning being the Execution day, the 27. of February *Stylovet*. *John Poole* being freed, as is aboue recited; came into the roome where the condemned persons were, and found them at prayer. They all requested him to relate vnto their friends in England the Innocency of their cause, taking it vpon their death, that what they had cōfessed against themselves & others, touching this crime, was all false, and forced by feare, and torture.

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The same morning *William Webber* was called againe into the Fiscals roome, and there pressed to produce the letter which he had before confessed to haue receaued from *John Clarke*, in the postscript wherof some great busines was intimated: they promised him his life if he would deliuer, or produce that letter; which although he did not, nor indeed could not, yet at last they pardoned him, & sent him to the rest that were saued, and *Sherrock* also with him.

That morning also *Emmanuel Tompson* vnderstanding that *John Beamont* was pardoned, made meanes to haue him come and speake with him; which with much ado he obteyned. *Beamont* found him sitting in a chamber all alone, in a most miserable fashion, the wounds of his torture being bound vp, but the matter and gore bloud issuing though the cloutes; he tooke *M. Beamont* by the hand, and prayed him when he came into England, to doe his

duety to the Honourable Company his Maisters, to *M. Robinson*, and his Brother *Billingsly*, and to certifie them of his Innocency, which (sayd he) you your selfe know well inough.

All things prepared for the Executiō, the condemned were brought forth of the Hall, along by the Chamber, where the quitted & pardoned men were, who stood in the dore, to giue and take the farwell of theyr Countrimen now going to execution. Staying a little for this purpose, they prayed and charged those that were saued, to beare witnesse to their friends in England of their Innocency, and that they died not Traitors, but so many Innocents meerey murdered by the Hollanders, whome they prayed God to forgiue their bloud-thirstinesse, and to haue mercy vpon their owne soules.

Being brought out into the Castle Yard, their sentence was there read vnto them from a Gallery, and then they were
carried

carried to the place of execution, together with nine *Iaponeses* & the *Portugese*, not the ordinary and short way, but round about in a long procession through the towne, the way garded by five Companies of soldiers Dutch and *Amboyneses*, and thronged with the Natiues of that Iland, who vpon the summons giuen the day before, by the sound of a Drumme, flocked thither to behould this triumph of the Dutch ouer the English.

Samuel Colson had conceiued a Prayer in wryting, in the end whereof he protested his Innocency : which prayer he read to his fellowes the night before, and now also at the place of execution deuoutly pronounced the same : then threw away the paper, which the Gouvernour caused to be brought to him, and kept it.

Emmanuel Tompson toould the rest, he did not doubt but God would shew some signe of their Innocēcy; & euery one of the rest tooke it seuerally vpon their deathes,

that they were vtterly guilelesse, and so one by one with great cheerefulnesse suffered the fatall stroke.

The *Portugese* prayed vpon his Beades very deuoutly, & often kissed the Crosse, swearing thereon that he was vtterly innocent of this Treason; yet confessed that God had iustly brought this punishment vpon him, for that he hauing a wife in his owne Countrey, had by the perswasion of the Dutch Gouvernour, taken another in that Country, his first being yet liuing.

The *Iaponeses* likewise according to their religion shut vp their last act with like profession of their Innocency. So that there suffered ten Englishmen, *vid. Cap. taine Gabriel Towerson* the Agent of the English at *Amboyna*, *Samuel Colson* Factor at *Hitto*, *Emmanuel Tompson* Assistant at *Amboyna*, *Timothy Iohnson* Assistant there also, *Iohn Wetherall* Factor at *Cambello*, *Iohn Clarke* Assistant at *Hitto*, *William Grege* Factor at *Larika*, *Iohn Fardo* steward of the house,

house, *Abel Price* Surgeon, & *Robert Browne* Taylour. They had prepared a cloth of black Veluet for *Captaine Towersons* body to fall vpon, which being stayned, and defaced with his bloud, they afterwards put to the account of the English Company.

At the Instant of the execution, there arose a great darknesse, with a sudden & violent blast of winde and tempest, whereby two of the Dutch ships riding in the Harbour, were driuen from their Ankers, and with great labour and difficulty saued frō the rockes. Within a fewdayes after one *William Dunkin*, who had tould the Gouvernour, that *Robert Browne* the English Taylour had a few monthes before tould him, he hoped within 6. months the English should haue as much to doe in the Castle of *Amboyna* as the Dutch: This fellow coming vpon an euening to the graue where the English were buried, being all (sauing *Captaine Towerson*) laid in one pit, fell downe vpon the graue, and hauing layne there

there

there a while, rose vp againe starke mad,
and so continued 2, or 3. dayes together,
and then dyed. Forthwith also fell a new
sicknesse at *Amboyna*, which swept away a-
bout a thousand people Dutch and *Amboyn-
neses*, in the space wherein vsually there
dyed not about thirty, at other seasons.
These signes were by the suruiuing En-
glish referred to the confident prediction
of *Emmanuel Tompson* aboue named, and
were by the *Amboyneses* interpreted as a to-
ken of the wrath of God, for this Barba-
rous Tyranny of the Hollanders.

The next day after the execution, be-
ing the 28. day of February *Stylo Veteri*, was
spent in tryumph for the new Generall of
the Dutch then proclaymed, & in publike
reioycing for the deliuerance from this
pretended Treason. The day following
being the first of March, *Iohn Beamot*, *George
Sherrock*, *Edward Collins*, & *VVilliam Webber*
were brought to the Gouvernour, who told
Webber, *Beamont*, & *Sherrock* that they were par-

pardoned in honor of their new Generall;
 and *Collins*, that he was to goe to *Iaccatray*,
 there to stand to the fauor of the Generall.
 So the Gouvernour made thé drinke Wine
 with him, and curteously dismissed them,
 willing them to go & consult with the rest
 that were saued who were fit to be placed
 in the seuerall Factories: which done, and
 their opiniōs reported to the Gouvernour,
 he accordingly commanded ech to their
 place, adding, that he would thenceforth
 take vpon him the patronage and gouvern-
 ment of the English Companyes busines.
 To which purpose he had then within a
 few dayes past, opened a letter that came
 from the English President at *Iaccatray* di-
 rected to *Captaine Tower*, being as he
 sayd the first English letter that ever he in-
 tercepted; further saying, he was glad that
 he found by that letter, that the English at
Iaccatray were innocent touching this bu-
 sines.

The Gouvernour and Fiscall hauing
 dealt

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thus

thus made an end at *Amboyna*, dispatched themselves for *Banda*, where they made very diligent inquiry against *Captaine Welden* the English Agent there; but finding no colour nor shadow of guilt to lay hold on, at last entertained him with courteous speeches, professing to be very glad, that they found him, as well as the English at *Iaccatray*, to be without suspicion of this Treason, as they termed it. *Welden* perceiving the disorder and confusion of the English Companies affaires at *Amboyna*, by meanes of this dealing of the Dutch, forthwith hired a Pinnase at *Banda*, and passed to *Amboyna*, where instantly vpon his arrivall he recalled the companys servants, sent as before by the Dutch Gouverneur to the vnder-Factories.

Having inquired of them, and the rest that were left at *Amboyna* of the whole proceedings lately passed, he found by the constant and agreeing relation of them all, that there was no such Treason of the English

glish as was pretended ; As also what strait
 command the Gouvernour had giue to the
 furuiuing English not once to talke, or cō-
 ferre with the Country people concerning
 this blouddy busines , although the sayd
 Country people euery day reproached thē
 with Treason, and a blouddy intention to
 haue massacred the Natiues , and to haue
 ripped vp to bellies of the women with
 child , and such like stuffe ; wherewith the
 Dutch had possessed the poore Vulgar , to
 make the English odious vnto them. The
 said *M. VVelden* therfore finding it to sort
 neither with the honour, nor profit of the
 English Company his Maisters to hold a-
 ny longer residence in *Amboyna* , he tooke
 this poore remnant of the English alonge
 with him in the sayd hired Pinnase for
Iaccatray, whither the Gouvernour had sent
John Beamont and *Edward Collins* before , as
 men condemned , and left to the mercy of
 the Generall.

When this heavy newes of *Amboyna*
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came to *Iaccatray*, & to the English there, the Presidēt forthwith sent to the General of the Dutch, to know by what authority the Gouvernour at *Amboyna* had thus proceeded against the English, and how he, and the rest of the Dutch there at *Iaccatray* did approue these proceedings? The Generall returned for answer, that the Gouvernour of *Amboyna* his authority was derived from that of the Lords States Generall of the United Netherlands, vnder whome he had lawfull Iurisdiction both in Criminall and Ciuill causes, within the district of *Amboyna*. Further also that such proceedinge was necessary against Traitors, such as the English executed at *Amboyna* might appeare to be by theyr owne confessions; A Coppy whereof he therewith sent vnto the English President, who sent the same backe to be authentically certified, but receaued it not againe.

Hitherto hath bene recited the bare and naked narration of the progresse and
pas-

passages of this Action, as it is taken out of the depositions of six severall English Factors, whereof foure were condemned, the other two acquitted in this Processe of *Amboyna*, hauing byn all since their returne into Englād, examined vpon their oathes, in the Admiralty Court. The particulars of *Captaine Towerson*, as also of *Emmanuel Tompsons* examinations & answers, are not yet come to light, by reason that these two were kept apart from all the rest, and ech alone by himselfe, nor any other of the English suffered to come to speake with them except onely that short farwell before mentioned which *John Beamont* tooke of *Tompson* the morning before his execution. The like obscurity is yet touching the examinations and answeres of diuers of the rest that were executed, being during their imprisonment so strictly looked vnto, and watched by the Dutch, that they might not talke togeather, nor mutually relate their miseries.

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But because the Hollāders defend their owne proceedings by the Confessions of the parties executed, acknowledging seuerally vnder their hands, that they were guilty of the pretended crime, it will not be amisse to recollect, and recall vnto this place, as it were into one summe and totall, certaine Circumstances dispersed in the seuerall partes of this narration: Whereby as well the Innocency of the English, as the vnlawfull proceedings against them, may be manifested.

First therefore, it is to be remembred, that the *Iaponeses* were apprehended, examined, and tortured, three or foure dayes before the English were attached, and the same aswell of their apprehension as torture was rise, and notorious in the towne of *Amboyna*, and the partes adioyning. *Emmanuel Tompson* in the *Interim*, and the very first day of this examinatioⁿ of the *Iaponeses*, went to the Castle to aske leaue of the Governour to land some Rise, and brought
backe

backe the newes with him to the English house, of the cruel handling of these poore *Iaponeses*. This had bene an *Item* sufficient to the English, if they had bene guilty, to shift for themselves, whereto also they had ready meanes by the Currey-Curres, or small boats of the *Amboyneses*, which lay along the Strand in great number, wherewith they might easily haue transported themselves to *Suran*, to *Botoone*, or to *Marcaßer*, out of the reach and Iurisdiction of the Dutch. But in that they fled not, in this case it is a very stronge presumption, that they were as little priuy to any Treason of their owne, as suspicious of any treacherous trayne layd for their bloud.

In the next place, let it be considered how impossible it was for the English to archieue this pretended enterprile. For that the Castle of *Ambonne* is of a very great strength, as is before declared, the garrison therein two, or three hundred men, besides as many more of their Free-Burgers.

gers in the towne. What their care and circumspection in all their Forts is, may appeare not onely by the quicke allarum they now tooke at the foolish question of the poore *Iaponesse* made to the Centinell about recited, but also by that which a little before happened at *Iaccarray*, where one of their souldiers was shot to death for sleeping in his watch.

Durst ten Englishmen, whereof not one a Souldier, attempt any thing vpon such a strength and vigilancy? As for the assistance of the *Iaponeses*, they were but ten nether, and all vnarmed as well as the English. For as at the seizure of the English House, all the prouision therein found, was but three swordes, and two muskets, with halfe a pound of powder: So the *Iaponeses*, except when they are in seruice of the Castle (and are then armed by the Dutch) are allowed to haue no armes but a *Carana*, a kind of short sword; and it is forbidden to all the Dutch vpon great penalty to sell
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any Hand-gun, powder, or bullets to the Iaponeses, or Amboyneses.

But let it be imagined that these twenty persons *English* and *Iaponeses* were so desperate, as to aduenture the exployt; how should they be able eyther to maister the Dutch in the Castle, or to keep possession when they had gotten it? What seconds had they? There was nether Ship nor Pinasse of the English in the Harbour: all the rest of the Iaponeses in the Iland were not twenty persons, and not one English more. The neereſt of the rest of the English were at *Banda* forty leagues from *Amboyna*, and those but nyne persons, all afterwards cleered by the Gouvernour and Fiscall themſelues, from all suspicion of this pretended crime, as were also the rest of the English at *Iaccatray*.

On the other ſide, beſides the ſtrength of the Castle and Towne of *Amboyna*, the Hollanders haue three other ſtronger Castles well furnished with ſouldiers, in the

same Iland; and at Cambello nere adioyning. They had then also in the Roade of Amboyna eight Shippes and Vessels, namely the Rotterdam of 1200 Tunnes, the Vnicorne of 300. tunnes, the Free-mans vessell of 190. tunnes, the Calke of 60. tunnes, Capitaine Gonzalez Pinck of 40. tunnes, the Flute of 300. the Amsterdam of 1400. and a small Pinnasse of about 62. tunnes; and all these well furnished with men and munition. It is true that Stories doe record, sundry valiant and hardy Enterprises of the English Nation, and Holland is witness of some of them, yea hath reaped the fruite of this English resolution: yet no Story, nor Legend scarcely reporteth any such hardines either of English, or other Nations, that so few persons, so naked of all prouisions and supplies, should undertake such an aduenture, vpon a counterparty so well and abundantly fitted at all points.

But let it be further granted, that they

they might possibly haue overcome all those difficulties; yet to what end & purpose should they put themselves into such icopardy? They knew well inough, that it was agreed betweene both Companyes at home, that the Fortes in the Indies should remayne respectiuey in the hands of such as had possession of them at the date of the Treaty Anno 1619. And that the same was ratified by the Kings Maiesty, and the Lords States Generall. They knew likewise, and all the world takes knowledge of his Maiesties Religious Obseruation of peace and treaty with all his Neighbours, yea with all the world. What reward then could those Englishmē hope for this their valour and danger? Certainly none other then that which is expressely provided by the Treaty it selfe, that is, to be disturbers of the Common Peace, and Amity of both Nations.

But let these Englishmen haue beene as foolish in this plot, as the Hollanders

will haue them, is it also to be imagined that they were so vngracious, as when they were condemned, and seriously admonished by the Ministers to discharge their consciences, yet then to persist in their dissimulation, being otherwise of such Godly behauiour, as to spend theyr tyme in prayer, singing of Psalmes, and spirituall comforting one another, which the Dutch would haue had them bestow in drinking, to driue away their sorrow? Let *Colsons* question to the Minister be considered: His, and the rests offer, and desire to receaue the Sacrament, in signe and token of their Innocency: Their mutuall asking forgiuenes for their like false accusations of one another forced by the torture: *Tompsons* last farwell to *Beaumont*: *Colsons* prayer, & his writing in his prayer-booke: *Fardos* farewell to *Poole*; also his cōiūring exhortation to his Fellowes to discharge their conscience; and all their answeres hercunto, crauing Gods mercy or
Iudge.

Judgement according to their Innocency in this cause: their generall, and religious profession of their Innocency to their Countrymen, at their last parting with them; and finally the sealing of this profession with their last breath and blood, even in the very article of death, and in the stroke of the Executioner.

What horrible and vnexampled dissimulation were this, if some one, or more of them had beene so fearfully desperate, yet would there not one amongst them be found to thinke of the Judgment to come, wherunto he was then instantly summoned without Esloyme, Bayle, or Mayne-pryze? What, had they hope of reprieve, and life if they kept their countenance to the last? Yet what hope had *Tompson*, and the rest, when *Captaine Towersons* head was stroken off? Nay, what desire had *Tompson* and *Clarke* to liue, being so mangled and martyred with the torture? They were executed one by one, and euery one seuerally

tooke it vpon his death, that he was guilt-
 lesse. Now to blanch, and smooth ouer
 all this rough and barbarous proceeding,
 it is heere giuen out, that the Governour
 and Fiscal found such euidence of the plot,
 and dealt so euently in the Processe, that
 they spared not their owne people; ha-
 uing vsed some of their Native Hollan-
 ders, partakers of this Treasō, in the same
 manner, as they did the English. But
 this, as well by the relation heere truly
 and saythfully set downe, grounded vpon
 the sworne testimony of six credible wit-
 nesses, as also by other sufficient Reports
 of diners lately come out of those partes,
 appeareth to be a meere Tale, not once
 alleaged by any in the Indies, in many
 monthes after the Execution, but onely
 inuented and disperfed heere for a *Fucus*,
 and fayre colour vpon the whole cause,
 and to make the world belienē, that the
 ground of this Barbarous and tyrannous
 pro-

proceeding was a true crime , and not the insatiable couetousnesse of the Hollanders by this Cruell Treachery , to gayne the sole Trade of the *Moluccas*, *Banda*, and *Amboyna*, which is already become the euent of this bloody Proesse.

To adde hereunto by way of aggrauation, will be needles, the fact being so full of odious and Barbarous Inhumanity, executed by the Hollanders vpon the English Nation, in a place where both liued vnder termes of Partener-ship, and great Amity , confirmed by a most solemne Treaty.

F I N I S.

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boyna, which is already become the enemy
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glish Nation, in a place where both lived
under terms of Partnership, and great
Amity, continued by a most solemn
Treaty.

FINIS.